



News from White Haven

Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site, dedicated to Civil War General and 18th President Ulysses S. Grant and his wife, Julia Dent Grant, is located in south St. Louis County, Missouri.

News from White Haven is a quarterly publication of Ulysses S. Grant NHS. It is also available online by visiting www.nps.gov/ulsg/.

Editorial Staff

Pam Sanfilippo
Abbi Telander

Chief of Interpretation

Arlene Jackson

Superintendent

Tim Good

Contributors

David Newmann
Stacy Humphreys

Comments? Write to:

Chief of Interpretation
Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site
7400 Grant Road
St. Louis, MO 63123

Telephone

314-842-1867

E-mail

ulsg_interpretation@nps.gov

New Phone Number

The phone number at Ulysses S. Grant NHS has changed. Our new number is 314-842-1867, and the extension to reach the Visitor Center is 230.

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Civil War Cannons Unveiled at Park



On September 17, two Civil War-era 24-pounder siege and garrison howitzers were unveiled in a ceremony at Ulysses S. Grant NHS. St. Louis County Executive Charlie Dooley and Grantwood Village Chairwoman Cathy Forand officially unveiled the cannons. These cannons are on loan from Andrew D. Busch and will be on display at Ulysses S. Grant NHS for the duration of the Civil War Sesquicentennial. These cannons, similar to those used by General Ulysses S. Grant's forces in various battles during the Civil War, symbolize Grant's determination that ensured Union victories at critical sieges such as Vicksburg and Petersburg. Above: Joe Forand, Cathy Forand, Gertrude Busch and Andrew Busch examine the newly unveiled cannons. Below: Visitors get a closer look at the cannons and discuss artillery with costumed Civil War reenactors following the unveiling ceremony.



Constitution Day: The Constitution and Presidential Powers

Higher Education Channel, or HEC-TV, broadcast two programs from Ulysses S. Grant NHS on Friday, September 16 in conjunction with Constitution Day. These sessions were broadcast live via satellite and the Internet across the country. The broadcast examined Presidential Powers under Article 2 of the Constitution. The morning session focused on domestic issues, and the afternoon session focused on foreign issues.

The morning panel included John Truman, an attorney and the grand nephew of President Harry S. Truman; Greg Willard, White House Staff Assistant and personal lawyer to President Gerald R. Ford, and Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site historian Pam Sanfilippo.

Presidents Grant, Truman, and Ford held similar views of the office and their authority under the Constitution. President Grant, during the unrest in the South following the war, issued a proclamation in May 1871, stating, "I will not hesitate to exhaust the powers thus vested in the Executive... for the purpose of securing to all citizens the peaceful enjoyment of the rights guaranteed by the Constitution and laws."

The afternoon panel replaced Pam with Dr. David Robertson, a Political Science



Constitution Day was marked at U. S. Grant National Historic Site by a live broadcast by HEC-TV on the U.S. Constitution and presidential powers. Two panels of presidential experts discussed presidential powers and the ways that various presidents regarded the Constitution in their decision-making. The morning panel is pictured above from left to right: Tim Gore of HEC-TV; John Ross Truman, attorney and grand-nephew of President Harry S. Truman; Greg Willard, White House Staff Assistant to President Gerald R. Ford and adjunct constitutional law professor at SLU law school; Pam Sanfilippo, Historian at Ulysses S. Grant NHS.

professor at University of Missouri-St. Louis. While President Grant was not discussed in regard to foreign affairs, his accomplishments included the successful efforts to peacefully arbitrate and resolve the dispute with Great Britain over its support of the former Confederacy—a forerunner to The Hague and the United Nations. In addition, Grant refused to intervene in Cuban guerrillas' efforts to overthrow the Spanish government. He believed that to send military assistance to the rebels who had yet to take a stronghold would appear imperialistic to other nations, replacing one colonial power over Cuba with a United States takeover.

Both programs featured call-ins from four schools throughout the nation, along with video feed and internet access to watch the programs from any computer. Students' questions ranged from the intent of the Founding Fathers regarding executive powers when they wrote Article 2 of the Constitution, to how Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama have viewed their responsibilities as president, especially in regard to war powers. More than 60 schools pre-registered for the conference via the internet.

If you missed the live shows, you can watch the recorded programs on the HEC-TV website at www.hectv.org.

Spotlight on the Park: Newly Rebuilt Lean-to

This spring, the site's maintenance staff completed a long-awaited project: recreation of the 1860s lean-to off the back of the house. Last summer, an archaeology team identified where the post holes would be, and the design was determined by historic photographs. This project completes the restoration of the house to its 1875 appearance.



Construction began in mid-April.



Stormy weather halted progress on Grant's birthday, April 27.



The finished canopy was completed by the U.S. Grant dollar coin event May 18.

U.S. Grant Lecture and John Y. Simon Day

On Saturday, October 29, Dr. Elizabeth Samet will be the keynote speaker at the 3rd annual Ulysses S. Grant Lecture and John Y. Simon Day. Dr. Samet's talk, "So plainly there could be no mistaking it': Grant's Memoirs and the Language of War," will begin at 10 a.m. at Ulysses S. Grant NHS.

Dr. Samet is a Professor of English at the United States Military Academy. Her book, *Soldier's Heart: Reading Literature Through Peace and War at West Point*, was named one of The New York Times's 100 Notable Books in 2007. It will be available for purchase

at the event, and there will be a book signing after the lecture.

The annual lecture is named in honor of Dr. John Y. Simon, editor of 31 volumes of *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*, and the Executive Director of the Ulysses S. Grant Association until his death in 2009.

Reservations are required for this event, and can be made by calling Pam Sanfilippo at (314) 842-1867 x224, or emailing Pam_Sanfilippo@nps.gov. The reservation fee is \$10, which entitles you to \$10 in merchandise in the park bookstore. Space is limited, so make your reservation soon.

Kids' Corner: Say Thank You to the Troops

In 2010, kids who came to Ulysses S. Grant NHS with Grant's Farm Critter Camp designed quilt squares thanking our country's troops that were then made into quilts for our men and women in the armed forces wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan. These finished quilts have been sent to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. This hospital is the main, and largest, US hospital outside the United States, and serves the Air Force, Army, Navy and Marines. If you and your family or school would like to support our troops, consider sending letters to soldiers, sailors and Marines who may not get a lot of mail from home. Many websites, like www.anysoldier.com and www.letterstosoldiers.org, can



Participants in Grant's Farm Critter Camp decorate quilt squares for wounded troops.

help you and your family connect with members of our military overseas who would appreciate receiving mail from people back home.



Ulysses S. Grant NHS
7400 Grant Road
St. Louis, MO 63123
(314) 842-1867

Upcoming Events

- September 30-October 2: Battle of Leasburg reenactment at Ozark Outdoors Riverfront Resort, Leasburg, MO.
- October 19: Celebrate famous Missourians (including Ulysses S. Grant) at Missouri Day at Missouri First State Capitol State Historic Site, St. Charles, MO. 10 a.m-4 p.m.
- October 19: Resource Center Network resource fair for educators, scout leaders and other youth leaders at The Living World at the Saint Louis Zoo. 4-6 p.m.
- October 29: U. S. Grant Lecture & John Y. Simon Day. Call Pam at 314/842-1867 x224.
- October 30: Last day of the season at Grant's Farm. Please visit <http://www.grantsfarm.com> for the 2012 season schedule.
- November 10: Naturalization ceremony at Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site.

Did you know?

On November 7, 1861, General U.S. Grant saw his first battle of the Civil War at Belmont, MO. He wrote in his memoirs that a small Confederate camp held the area. Immediately across the river, Columbus, Kentucky was controlled by

a much larger force of Confederates. Grant's troops attacked Belmont, but in celebrating their victory, they were surrounded and the officers contemplated surrender. Grant announced to the men "we had cut our way in and could cut our

way out just as well." They did just that, meeting "feeble" resistance. Criticized by some, Grant believed his actions prevented a future Rebel attack from Columbus, and gave the federal troops newfound confidence.